Docket Number: 030157-0304884 PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

ROBERT D VARRIN, et al.

Group Art Unit: 1751

Application No.:

Examiner: Gregory E. Webb

Filed: January 23, 2004

Confirmation No.:

For: IMPROVED SCALE CONDITIONING AGENTS AND TREATMENT METHOD

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. No copies of the references are enclosed since each was previously cited in U.S. Application No. 09/884,439. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn T. Barrett

Registration Number 38705

Date: January 23, 2004 PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP Telephone: (703) 905-2000 Facsimile: (703) 905-2500

P.O. Box 10500 McLean, VA 22102 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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|                         |                          |   | U. S. PATENT                   | DOCUMENTS  |   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* * | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup> | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                         |                          | <sup>US-</sup> 4,899,697                                  | 02/13/1990                     | FRANKLIN et al.                                    |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                             |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials*       | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> ( <i>if known</i> ) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup>                                   |  |  |  |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. The Formal Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.